

ROADS RAISE HOWL

Alleged Discrimination in Assessment for Taxes.

COAST LINE CASE CITED

Appeal to Courts Probable in Order to Straighten Out a Perplexing Problem—A Most Peculiar Situation.

That the railroads of Georgia will in the near future resist in the courts the taxes now levied against them is the growing opinion among leading corporation lawyers of the state.

These predictions are based upon contentions that the arbitration system results in an unequal distribution of taxation and that corporate property, compared to other property, is valued at a much higher per cent than that of private individuals.

The fact that the award in the Atlantic Coast Line case fixed the taxable value of that system at a higher rate per mile than the other lines doing a similar business is cited in support of these contentions. This road may, indeed, be the first or among the first to appeal from the award of arbitrators and submit the question of how much it should be taxed to the supreme court.

F. G. duBignon, attorney for the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company, was seen touching the recent arbitration of the properties of this company. He said that as he understood it the figures of the umpire in fixing the value of the franchise and tangible properties represented the full value of those properties and were not reduced so as to conform to the valuation for taxes of other property returned for taxation in the state.

"Indeed," he said, "I understand such a statement was made while the board was in open session."

The evidence submitted to the board, he said, consisted of affidavits of tax collectors, tax receivers, ordinaries, sheriffs and real estate agents along the line of this road, which were all to the effect that property generally in their respective counties were returned for state and county taxes at only from 50 to 60 per cent of its true value, and that there was no evidence contradicting this.

"In fact," he said, "I believe the comptroller general had admitted, according to the public prints, in one of the preceding arbitrations, that property generally in this state was returned for state and county taxes at about 62 2/3 per cent of its value. I have no idea that more than 70 per cent of the award against the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company, both as to its franchise and tangible property, can be enforced."

"The authorities upon the point are simply overwhelming and all one way. The question has been decided by almost every district and circuit court in the United States, and has been before the supreme court of the United States more than once, and the decisions of that court upon it were keen and clear."

SOUGHT TO BRIBE PAYNE.

Alabama Postmaster Was Anxious to Become Member of Graft Gang.

Andrew S. Wallace was until a few weeks ago postmaster at Opp, Ala. While serving as Uncle Sam's agent in that capacity Mr. Wallace read in the papers of the bribery that was going on in the postoffice department at Washington and he forthwith proceeded to write to Postmaster General Payne and offered him the sum of \$50 if Mr. Payne would have him appointed postmaster at Andalusia, Ala.

This is a better offer than the one held by Mr. Wallace, and he thought by tempting the postmaster general with the offer of \$50 he would have no trouble in receiving the appointment. He has been removed from the office at Opp and placed under arrest. A bond of \$500 for his appearance at the next term of the United States court at Birmingham was required.

SENATOR PEAK GUILTY.

Aftermath of a Fight Which Occurred in Chattanooga Last April. In the criminal court at Chattanooga, Tenn., Wednesday, State Senator Walter Peak was found guilty of assault and battery and fined \$200.

Senator Peak was indicted for felonious assault on the person of William Dowling last April during the sessions of the legislature. Peak has now brought suit against Dowling for \$50,000 for libel. Dowling also sues Peak for the same amount for personal injuries.

ODD FELLOWS ELECT RANEY.

As Commanding General of the Patriarchs Militant Division.

The sovereign grand lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in session at Baltimore, unanimously elected General M. A. Raney, of Marquette, Iowa, commanding general of the patriarchs militant for a term of four years. General Raney was appointed commander to the military branch of the order last year, and his election was received with cheers.

BLAZE IN OIL FIELD.

Much Damage Done by Fire in the Shoe String District of Texas.

Fire which started at noon Wednesday in the Shoe String district of the Texas oil field, burned about twenty derricks and destroyed a quantity of machinery, spreading over the thickly built portion of the field. The loss is variously estimated at from \$50,000 to \$100,000.

Cream of News.

Brief Summary of Most Important Events of Each Day.

—Andrew S. Wallace, formerly postmaster at Opp, Ala., wrote to Postmaster General Payne, offering a bribe of \$50 for a promotion. He has been reading of the postal scandals, and is now in jail.

—Ernest Blixler, a prominent insurance man of Jacksonville, Fla., jumped overboard from the steamer Algonquin, leaving a note in his state room telling what had become of him.

—Senator John T. Morgan addressed the Alabama legislature in joint session Wednesday on the relations between the national government and state legislatures.

—George W. Beavers, charged with conspiracy in attempt to defraud the government, was before a commissioner again in New York Wednesday to answer to two additional indictments.

—Professor Wright, of Leland Stanford university, was buried at Grand Rapids, Mich., in the manner he wanted to be—in a plain unvarnished box.

—Bandits held up a passenger train near Portland, Ore., and in a skirmish with the robbers the engineer of the train was fatally wounded.

—The president has begun on his annual message to congress. No visitors are received at Sagamore Hill, Oyster Bay.

—The state department has received a dispatch from Monterey, Mexico, stating that yellow fever has broken out there.

—Fusionists of New York held convention Wednesday night and nominated Low as their candidate for the mayoralty.

—Incendiaries start a fire which nearly wipes out the village of Morris, Wis., and causes a loss of \$300,000.

—Old-time Telegraphers at their annual reunion, in Milwaukee, select Atlanta, Ga., as next place for reunion.

—King Edward is exercising his veto prerogative and will not assent to the formation of a new cabinet until satisfied that its personnel and combination are such as to insure the carrying on of the empire's affairs. The accords for the delay.

—The International Peace congress, in session at Rouen, France, passed resolutions congratulating President Roosevelt and Minister Bowen on their efforts in the trouble of the allied powers with Venezuela.

—Bulgarians are growing more excited daily and are calling on government to declare war on Turkey.

—A reign of terror is said to exist in the western section of Worth county, Georgia. In the last year five men have been murdered and only one arrest has been made in consequence.

—McDonough, Ga., had a \$100,000 fire Sunday afternoon. The blaze began at 5 o'clock and was not checked until 10. Two whole business blocks were destroyed.

—Columbus, Ga., has at last been granted the thorough line of sleepers from Washington for which it has so long besought the Southern railway.

—South Carolina state officers are puzzled over what to do in Saluda county. The sheriff stands accused of murder, but refuses to surrender his office to the coroner and the state law forbids the governor's removing the sheriff for any cause.

—At Frankfort, Ky., Sunday three negroes made a daring escape from jail. One of them split the jailer's head with a bottle and the three then made a successful dash for liberty.

—In an attempt to escape from the South Carolina penitentiary a convict, Grant McNeil, was killed by Preston Jefferson, a trustee, who will doubtless be pardoned in consequence.

—At the negro Baptist conference in Boston, Dr. Booker, president of the Arkansas Baptist college, told his race that the best thing they could do was to imitate the white man and imitate some of his American enterprises.

—Chicago Federation of Labor sends President Roosevelt a long letter taking exceptions to his attitude on open shops, as demonstrated in the Miller case.

—Poses in Montana are pursuing "Kid" Curry, the train robber, who escaped from Knoxville, Tenn., jail.

—Sultan of Turkey expresses regret at the atrocities perpetrated by the troops and promises the Russian ambassador that they will not be repeated. The murder of Bulgarians, however, continues.

—Lord Balfour, of Burleigh, secretary to Scotland, and Arthur Elliot, financial secretary to the treasury, have resigned. The king has accepted the resignations.

—The city of Linares, Mexico, is dead commercially on account of yellow fever there. There are over two hundred cases in Linares.

—The longshoremen's strike at Brunswick, Ga., has been brought to a close. The arbitrators' award of 14 cents per hour pleases both sides and all hands are at work again.

—The City of Macon, for which fears were entertained, reached Savannah safely. The passengers tell of harrowing experiences during the storm.

—United States Minister Powell sends a strong protest to San Domingo government against the project of establishing the neutrality of Dominican waters and making certain ports free.

—Booker Washington made an address to the delegates of the colored Baptist conference, at Philadelphia, in which he said that one of the problems ahead would be to find employment for the negro.

—Detective Thomas Hutchens, at Evansville, Ind., fatally wounds Chief of Police Henke and Police Captain Brennecke and injures Councilman Lutz. Hutchens then committed suicide.

—The British government will give cotton growing in the British West Indies its utmost support.

TIME LIMIT EXPIRES

And the Colombian Congress Fails to Act on Treaty.

ALL IS AGAIN AT SEA

It is Now Up to President Roosevelt to Make the Next Move—Senator Morgan of Alabama, Has Something to Say.

When the state department closed at 4 o'clock Tuesday afternoon, it was agreed that the Panama canal treaty was dead, although eight hours yet remained within which the Colombian congress might take affirmative action upon it. Nothing, however, had been received during the day, either from Minister Beaufre, at Bogota, or from Mr. Herran, the Colombian charge in Washington, which gave the slightest hope of a favorable issue. A report is current that the Colombian congress in secret session has clothed President Marroquin with full power to negotiate a treaty. If this report should turn out to be true, President Marroquin, who is counted as a friend of the treaty, could proceed untrammelled by the fear of future reckoning with his congress. In any event, President Roosevelt must now take the next step. He can elect to proceed under the Spooner act and take up the Nicaragua route, or he can allow matters to drift for the present, in the hope that a way may yet be found to straighten out the present difficulties in the path of the Panama route.

Contrary to his custom during the summer, Acting Secretary Ade, of the state department, remained in Washington Tuesday night in order to be on hand to act promptly on any information which might come from Mr. Beaufre, regarding canal matters at Bogota. Up to 9:30, however, nothing had been received. Dr. Herran, the Colombian charge, also waited anxiously for news from his government. But, likewise, was disappointed. Colombia, it is known, is anxious to keep alive the canal negotiations. What form her new proposition, with that object in view, will take is not known in Washington.

One interesting feature in connection with the legislative situation in Colombia is the fact that the terms of one-third of the members of the senate, numbering nine, will expire on July 20, when the life of the present congress ends. These nine senators, it is said, are adverse to the canal treaty. The hope of the advocates of the treaty will be to elect senators in their places who are favorable to the convention. It is expected the campaign for the seats will be made on this issue.

Senator Morgan Heard From. When told that the department at Washington had heard nothing concerning the canal treaty, and that it was the last day which the treaty could be considered, Senator Morgan, who was in Montgomery, Ala., for a few days, said: "The treaty has been dead for twenty-five days. Nothing could have resurrected it. Action at Bogota means the building of a canal by the Nicaragua route. Roosevelt has no discretionary powers, but it is made mandatory upon him. It turned out exactly like I expected it. It is the best thing for this country and the world now. It goes back to my proposition to build the Nicaragua canal, and it will be the best thing for this country to do."

WERE HID IN A LOFT.

Supposed Escapes from North Carolina Pen Had Never Left. A dispatch from Raleigh, N. C., says: After nine days and nights of ceaseless search for Drayton Medlin, a murderer serving a life sentence, and A. V. Rice, a thief serving a ten-year sentence, they were found Tuesday afternoon in the penitentiary in the loft of a building long used as a shoe shop. They mysteriously disappeared after religious services Sunday, September 13th.

They claim they hid a bed and supply of food in the loft. They are much emaciated.

BULGARIANS URGED TO FIGHT.

Macedonian Sympathizers Adopt Resolution Appealing for War.

Advices of Wednesday from Sofia, Bulgaria, state that a less hopeful feeling prevails in government circles regarding the general situation, although no actual change is reported. The events of the next few days are awaited with great anxiety, and popular feeling is becoming more excited. A largely attended meeting of Macedonian sympathizers, held at Rusehuk, Bulgaria, has adopted resolutions appealing to the Bulgarian government to declare war on Turkey immediately.

BILL TO PROHIBIT BOYCOTTS

Passed in Alabama House of Representatives—Of Sweeping Nature.

The Alabama house of representatives, Thursday, passed the bill to prohibit boycotting by a vote of 60 to 32. The bill is sweeping in its nature, prohibiting blacklists, bans, and picketing and provides a penalty therefor.

Organized labor used all its efforts to have the bill defeated.

NOTHING FROM BEAUPRE.

Matters Bearing on Canal Question in a Quiescent State.

There were no developments in Washington Thursday bearing on the canal question. Nothing further was heard from Minister Beaufre. The advice of the state department from Bogota do not fill up the hiatus between 5 p. m. and midnight of Tuesday, the day on which the limit of time for ratification of the treaty expired.

WILL CASE IS SETTLED.

Alleged Collier Tissue Paper Document Withdrawn from Litigation in Atlanta Court.

Litigation over the estate of the late George W. Collier came to an abrupt end in the superior court at Atlanta, Ga., Wednesday afternoon, when a satisfactory agreement was reached by all parties concerned and a consent verdict ordered which removes the matter from the courts.

The following is the basis of the settlement:

The alleged last will and testament of Mr. Collier is set aside on the ground that the testator had no testamentary capacity on October 8, 1900, the date of the paper.

By this arrangement the three executors—Judge J. N. Bateman, Henry L. Collier and George W. Collier—go out of all control of the estate, their duties as executors ceasing with the signing of the verdict.

The caveators—the heirs who contested the will—agree to pay to the three executors and their attorneys the sum of \$10,000 in full settlement of all expenses and claims.

The settlement means that the estate will now be administered by administrators to be appointed by Ordinary John R. Wilkinson. Although no positive statement is made, it is understood that George W. Collier, Jr., and Miss Elizabeth Collier, the two oldest children of Mr. Collier, the deceased, have been agreed on as administrators.

The sudden adjustment of the case came as a surprise, even to the parties interested. The question of a settlement had been discussed between the two sides, but it is said that all efforts in this direction had been abandoned. They were renewed in the court room Wednesday, however, and within the space of only a few minutes had proven successful. The friends of Judge Bateman consider that the adjustment is a complete vindication for him in the matter of the charges made in the ordinary's court.

Counsel for the propounders state that the first movement for a settlement came from outside parties. Attorneys for the caveators assert that the proposition came from the opposing side. The amendment to the caveat was of necessity filed by the caveators.

As to how the \$10,000 will be appropriated by the two retiring executors is not known at this time and will probably never be given to the public. It is understood, however, that the most of the money will go towards paying attorneys' fees, six of the most prominent members of the Atlanta bar having been engaged by Messrs. Bateman and H. L. Collier.

ATLANTA DEPOT CONTRACT

Awarded to a Local Firm for the Aggregate Sum of \$350,000.

At Atlanta, Wednesday, Gude & Walker, local contractors, were awarded the contract for the construction of the new passenger station, at Mitchell street and Madison avenue, by the Atlanta Terminal Company, in a meeting which was held at the residence of Captain James W. English, president.

The price is between \$345,000 and \$350,000, and the depot is to be completed within a year.

The work will be pushed as speedily as is consistent with good workmanship and the station will be ready for occupancy within less than a year.

The award was in the nature of a recommendation from the Terminal Company to the officials of the Southern, Central and Atlanta and West Point railroads, and there is no doubt whatever that it will be confirmed.

Captain J. W. English expects to hear from the officials of these roads immediately, so it follows that the contract will be signed without delay.

A copy of the award has been forwarded to Mr. Samuel Spencer, president of the Southern; C. A. Wickersham, president of the West Point, and J. F. Hanson, chairman of the board of directors of the Central. These gentlemen will have the final say in the matter of the award, but when it is understood that Mr. Wickersham was present at the meeting and that J. S. R. Thompson represented Mr. Spencer, it stands to reason that the action of the Terminal Company will be approved without question.

PARSON AND WIFE SEPARATE.

Sensational Charges Against Former President of Wesleyan College.

It is very generally understood, according to a news special from Atlanta, that Rev. J. W. Roberts, D. D., one of the best known Methodist ministers in Georgia, has decided a large amount of his Atlanta property to his wife and that they will separate. It is understood that this separation is due to certain sensational charges which were made against Dr. Roberts in connection with one of the lady teachers at Wesleyan Female college while he was president of that institution last spring.

TURKS ARE SLAUGHTERED.

Report of Fierce Fight Wherein Six Hundred are Slain.

According to a telegram received in Sofia, Bulgaria, Thursday, from Kotel (63 miles from Sofia) six hundred Turks were killed in a fight at Kotelchani, September 18th. The Turkish forces numbered 7,000.

After the fight the troops, enraged at their losses, pillaged and burned a number of Bulgarian villages.

MORE TROUBLE FOR BEAVERS.

Ex-Postoffice Employee Must Answer to Two Additional Indictments.

George W. Beavers again surrendered himself at New York Wednesday and was arraigned before United States Commissioner Ridgway on two indictments recently returned against him in Washington for alleged conspiracy in connection with the co-traitors between the Bundy Time Clock Company and the postoffice department, in connection with which transaction State Senator Green, of Birmingham, was indicted.

WOMAN'S VERSION

Mrs. Griffin Tells Story of Her Husband's Assassination.

A SENSATION IS SPRUNG

Eatonton Physician's Name Brought Into the Case by Prosecution. Charges are Vehemently Denied on Both Sides.

In their effort to prove a cause of motive for the crime charged to Mrs. Lizzie Griffin, the state's counsel introduced witnesses in court at Eatonton, Ga., Thursday to show that back of the tragedy which ended in the death of Joan Griffin was an estrangement between John Griffin and his wife caused by the infatuation of Mrs. Griffin for another man. This man is Dr. L. O. McCalla, of Eatonton, John Griffin's family physician.

All the evidence offered at this point was wholly by negroes and hardly trustworthy.

In her statement to the jury, Mrs. Griffin positively denied any improper conduct toward her on his part, and under oath he flatly averred that he had never visited Griffin's house except when sent for and in the capacity of a practicing physician, or on some business with Griffin himself.

Dr. McCalla is a gentleman of veracity and honor, and enjoys the respect and confidence of the public.

At 10 o'clock Thursday morning the state rested its case and the defense began the investigation of witnesses.

The first were statements from Sam Knowles and Mrs. Griffin.

Knowles' statement was very brief, and in substance, that after returning home from work on that fatal afternoon he went to the lot and fed the stock. While there his mother called him to supper. After eating he retired to another part of the house, where, in company with the balance of the family, he remained until Hulon Knowles, his brother, who had just returned with a party from fishing, came in and announced the killing.

Mrs. Griffin, in substance, said that some time during the day while she and her husband were on the porch, she saw "old Tom Jackson" coming, and remarked to Griffin that she wondered what he wanted; that Tom came up and called Griffin out and asked him to go down to the swamp and look at some tracks that were troubling him (other evidence alleged that Tom was jealous of some real or imaginary man's conduct relating to his wife, Mit Jackson); that late that evening, about dark, after John Griffin had returned from town, they were sitting in their room. John Griffin had just told her of hiring a big black negro in town to do some work for him, and that she had better save supper for him.

That about this time she looked in the direction of the window through which the shooting occurred, and saw on the outside, with a gun in his hands, a tall negro man. Before she could speak to warn her husband of the danger the report of the gun sounded out and John Griffin fell from his chair. Immediately thereafter and before she had time to do anything, the second shot was fired. She ran out of the house with her children in her arms and at the back steps met the man who grabbed her and warned her against making any noise. She begged for her life and ran screaming to a nearby negro cabin for help and protection.

When first asked if she recognized the assassin, she said it was Tom Jackson. When, soon afterward, her brother Hulon Knowles, Rickerson and others arrived on their return home from fishing and said they met Tom Jackson down the road one-quarter or a half-mile away, she said it must then have been the big black negro John Griffin had hired in town that day. She further stated that there could have been no just cause for her to kill her husband, as they were on the best of terms and had gotten along nicely all their married life, except some times when he would come home under the influence of whiskey, and that then nothing of any consequence ever transpired that was unpleasant.

Sufficient time has now elapsed since the hurricane for the damage to property in Miami to be easily estimated. The city was not damaged to any great extent. Three or four small houses were blown over, and two brick blocks were unroofed. The greatest damage was the wrecking of a large number of shade trees. Some of these were very large, and had withstood the gales for many years. Many of them were completely destroyed.

The Exchange National Bank at Tampa, has been designated by Secretary of the Treasury Shaw as a depository for the United States government. The appointment is a permanent one, and an officer of the institution stated that the designation is due to the bank's good showing and the personal efforts of Senator Stephen R. Mallory. The Exchange National bank has become one of Florida's most reliable and promising financial institutions.

While firing a revolver at a hog which was eating up a brood of young chickens at her home at Gulf Point, Mrs. Louise Tideman accidentally shot and killed the little daughter of William Douglass, a neighbor, the bullet entering the back of the little girl's head passing through the brain.

The committee having the sixth annual fair in charge is hard at work on the program for the three days which it will run this year. Invitations have been extended to the various candidates for governor and United States senator to be present and speak on the opening day, October 9.

The storm did but little damage in the section around DePue Springs. Some cane and rice were blown down, and a few fences must be rebuilt.

FILIPINOS AT WORLD'S FAIR.

Thirty-One Natives of Island Swoop Down Upon St. Louis.

Thirty-one native Filipinos have arrived in St. Louis to help in the erection of the Philippine exhibit buildings and began work Thursday on the "Cuartel de Filipinos" at the world's fair.

The "Cuartel de Filipinos" is to be 150 feet square, with a court in the center 90 feet square. It is to be two stories high, with the second story overhanging as in Manila dwelling houses. It is to be roofed with nipa, a native plant.

Florida State News.

Famous Dry Dock to be Tested. The first vessel to be taken by the former Havana Spanish dry dock since its purchase by the United States government two years ago and afterwards located at the Pensacola navy yard, will be the big English steamer August Belmont, owned by the Louisville and Nashville railroad.

The vessel is now on her trip to Tampa, being engaged in carrying coal between that port and Pensacola, and as soon as she returns will be placed on the dock for repairs.

The dock, which has been undergoing repairs at the yard for the past year, is now about completed, and all that remains is a test with some of the smaller vessels to see if the machinery is in good working order.

The repairs to the dock cost \$55,000, exclusive of an additional appropriation for the construction of a basin at a cost of \$10,000. As the department at present has no need of the services of the dock the Louisville and Nashville secured permission from the navy officials to allow the August Belmont to be taken out and repaired. The vessel is of such tremendous size that no docks in the south are capable of lifting her, and the expense of sending her north to one of the big ship yards would amount to thousands. It is thought that the vessel will be taken out about October 1.

A number of ship owners have also made application for permission to have large vessels taken out by this dock, which has a lifting capacity of about 10,000 tons. Pensacolans are taking much interest in the matter, as they realize that it will eventually lead to some firm establishing a dry dock and ship yard at the port.

Storm Damage in Leon.

Mr. E. N. Mabry, of Lake Jackson, the largest cotton grower, and one of the most progressive farmers in Leon county, has been all week pulling his corn out of the overflowed water of Lake Jackson and endeavoring to ascertain the damage done the cotton crop. Mr. Mabry estimates that one-twelfth of the corn crop is damaged, and that the loss will be 20 per cent on the crop in the county at large. He finds the cotton which was blown out on the ground totally worthless, and the seed on the ground and open in the soil is sprouting, rendering it absolutely worthless. The damage to crops, he thinks, in Leon county, is fully 10 per cent.

Mr. Mabry had recently worked the road from Tallahassee to his place, and had the best road in the county. This road is all washed away by the recent storm. He says the negroes who formerly worked on the road are unable and cannot work the road again. He says that the farm laborers and many of the farmers are left in a deplorable condition by the storm. Mr. Mabry lost seven bales of cotton out of twelve.

George Reddington, who has charge of the rendering of the oil from the blubber of the three whales stranded some weeks ago on South Beach, at St. Augustine, reports that he has secured one thousand gallons from the heads and blubber. In trying it down he has three qualities of oil. The lightest is clear and light. The second grade is heavier, but not so clear. Mr. Reddington has had a reply from one party to whom he wrote for prices. The firm asks for samples, on receipt of which spot cash prices will be quoted for all grades.

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Exciting Encounter With a Catamount. Dudley Wood moved from Riverland into the Henrich house, half a mile east from Mascotte, one day the past week. About dark that night the chickens roosting in a pear tree near the house began clucking, and Mr. Wood went to the window and raised the alarm, thinking that an owl was after his fowls. Suddenly a strange animal sprang against his chest and seized his right arm about six inches from the shoulder, sinking its teeth through the flesh to the bone.

Mr. Wood at once reached for its legs, got hold of a hind foot, and threw himself back, whirling the beast violently to the floor of the room. Then reaching out for its neck, he grasped it firmly, shutting off its wind and still holding on to the hind foot, while his wife's mother lighted a lamp.

All this time Mr. Wood though he had captured a vicious dog, but when the light came he found that he had a sure-enough